Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Tuesday 28 Dec 2021 until 23:59 on Wednesday 29 Dec 2021

Forecast Issued on Monday 27 Dec 2021 at 11:35

Confidence: Medium confidence at best in the details of the forecast particularly after day 2. Timing of frontal rain and cloud amounts are likely to change from the forecast written, however the general pattern of milder air with frontal rain and periods of strong winds looks set for the week.

Headline for Tuesday 28 Dec 2021: A wet morning but drier in the afternoon.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 28 Dec 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** No Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Dull	Drizzle	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Light rain	Dull	Dull	Cloudy
Precipitation probability							
20%	40%	70%	70%	50%	30%	30%	10%

Forecast for Tuesday 28 Dec 2021

Weather: Mainly dry through the night although some patchy drizzle and broken low cloud is likely. An area of rain will push into the western Lake District in the early morning with outbreaks of heavy rain expected at times especially in the west. The rain will be accompanied by strong winds for a time in the middle of the day leading to quite unpleasant conditions on the hill for a time. Rain will clear east later in the morning becoming lighter and patchier in nature before eventually clearing to leave a mainly dry afternoon, perhaps a few brighter spells appearing just before dusk. A mainly dry evening with clear spells developing later in the night.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 10 % widespread low cloud covering the fell tops associated with rain, improving to 40% by mid afternoon as rain clears east.

Visibility: Visibility will be quite poor throughout the day with periods of light and patchy drizzle and rain and also spells of heavier rain in the morning. Cloud will fall below the fell tops to around 4-500m, it will be quite extensive but will thin and lift a little in the afternoon but will still linger above 600m during the afternoon.

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Forecast for Tuesday 28 Dec 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	18/24 E	18/23 E	15/19 E	14/18 NE	19/26 N	19/25 NW	13/17 NW	9/12 NW	9/12 S
600	15/22 E	16/23 E	12/17 E	11/17 NE	15/22 N	15/22 NW	10/15 NW	6/8 NW	7/10 S
300	7/20 E	6/17 E	5/14 E	6/13 NE	8/20 N	8/19 NW	5/12 NW	3/7 W	4/9 S
Valley	9/19 E	6/17 E	5/13 E	8/15 NE	11/21 N	9/18 NW	6/13 NW	2/5 W	3/7 SE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	2/-3	3/-2	3/-2	2/-2	2/-3	2/-3	1/-3	1/-3	1/-3
600	4/-1	4/-1	4/0	4/0	4/-0	4/-1	3/-0	2/-0	2/-0
300	5/3	6/4	6/4	6/4	6/3	6/3	5/3	4/3	4/2
Valley	7/4	7/5	7/5	7/5	8/5	8/5	7/5	5/4	5/4
Freezing Level*	1600m	1600m	1600m	1500m	1500m	1400m	1300m	1200m	1200m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Strong easterly winds for a time during the day and this along with heavy rain will give quite chilly conditions.

Forecast for Wednesday 29 Dec 2021

Weather: A dry night period with some clear periods but soon clouding over in the morning with some rain spreading in from the west in the morning, the rain will clear through after a couple of hours but may be heavy for a time. Cloud clearing in the afternoon but feeling quite a lot fresher after the rain. Some rain will fall as sleet or snow on the higher tops at first but will turn to rain at all levels.

Maximum wind: Strong southwesterly winds, 20mph with gusts 30-35mph.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 30% in the morning as frontal rain moves across the area but improving to 80% in the afternoon as rain and cloud clear.

Visibility: Visibility will be moderate or poor in the morning as moderate or heavy rain moves across the area with broken cloud bases above 500m, during the afternoon visibility will become very good and only patches of lower cloud around 700m.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 5 rising to 10 Celsius.
At 800m: Plus 1 rising to 5 Celsius.
Freezing level: 900m rising above all summits in the milder air.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Monday 27 December. Location: Helvellyn summit at 14:30. Temperature: plus 1.3degC.Maximum wind speed 13.6mph.Wind chill: minus 5.1degC.Average wind speed: 8.3mph. Full report: The recent snow is thawing at all levels with the freezing level above the summits and the snowline now at 700m. However the neve from mid December is proving very resistant to the warmer temperatures and was still hard, icy and weight bearing where it lies in gullies and hollows on steep N through E facing aspects above 700m. Striding & Swirral Edges have a skittering of new snow and microspikes were useful for extra traction especially on the 'easier' paths on the flanks. However with some careful route choice it is now possible to climb and descend both ridges without stepping on the older icier snow/neve. Ice axe and crampons are currently essential for anyone venturing onto the old snow / neve and highly recommended for those exploring steeper and more exposed terrain. Microspikes and trekking poles would be a useful addition for anyone walking on the higher fells even on the easier low angled paths. Similar conditions are forecast for the next few days. As such, warm and waterproof clothing (including hats and gloves) and equipment including a headtorch, map, and compass (or other reliable means of navigating) are all essential.

Issued at: 1135 on Mon 27 Dec 2021

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